



HC 4— Filed 01/10/2001

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Introduced Version

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. _____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION commending the department of correction's stated willingness to cooperate in a scientific evaluation of the effects of isolation on prisoners in "supermax" prisons.

Smith V

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on

20011658

2001

HC 1002/DI 84+



HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION commending the department of correction's stated willingness to cooperate in a scientific evaluation of the effects of isolation on prisoners in "supermax" prisons.

Whereas, With 1.8 million Americans behind bars on any given day, it is vital that we have a clear and factual understanding of our prison system and the effects the disciplinary tactics employed by the officials have on prisoners;

Whereas, Over the years, popular opinion has encouraged elected and correctional officials to build more isolation units in order to provide more discipline in our prisons;

Whereas, The effects of isolation on the mental health of prisoners have not been evaluated;

Whereas, There are those who contend that the effects of isolation on inmates have indicated that some possible effects of isolation are the further regression of the inmate into a violent state from which he is capable only of acting on instinct, with no ability to plan beyond the moment;

Whereas, The effects isolation may have on the inmate when he is released could result in heightened danger to the community; and

Whereas, This resolution has been adopted by the correction matters evaluation committee: Therefore,



*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives
of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana,
the Senate concurring:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the General Assembly commends the Department
- 2 of Correction's stated willingness to cooperate in a scientific evaluation
- 3 of the effects of isolation on prisoners in "supermax" prisons.
- 4 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
- 5 Representatives shall transmit a copy of this resolution to the
- 6 commissioner of the Department of Correction.

